

# NEWS RELEASE

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
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PORTLAND DISTRICT  
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**The SBA Portland District Office  
Minority Small Business Champion of the Year  
*Jonath Colon, Business Development Coordinator  
Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce***



*Jonath Colon*

**Portland, Ore.** – SBA Oregon District Director, Harry DeWolf, announces that Jonath Colón, Business Development Coordinator of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce in Oregon, is the SBA 2008 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year for the NW region and the state of Oregon. Jonath will receive his award at the Oregon SBA's Small Business Week Awards Gala May 22, 2008, 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Portland, Oregon.

Jonath Colón is a business development coordinator for the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber. He helps business clients address a variety of operational and technical issues. In the last year alone, he helped address issues for more than 300 firms. "I work with business owners from various industries, and assist with everything from setting up accounting systems to helping them obtain certification," said Colón. He hosts member workshops and classes, covering a large array of business development issues. The classes provide a broad overview of business topics. In many cases, members who want more information or assistance schedule one-on-one sessions with Jonath so that he can help address individual concerns.

Colón has provided technical assistance regarding utilization of disadvantaged, minority, and women's business enterprises to minority and women-owned firms and to government agencies such as the U.S. Department of Energy, City of Portland, Housing Authority of Portland, Trimet, Multnomah County, the Oregon Department of Transportation, and the Portland Development Commission, among others, as well as private sector firms such as Sprint, Bethel, URS, Walsh Construction, PC Construction, Boeing, and Westinghouse.

Colón has designed and participated in implementing supplier diversity programs for numerous organizations. He is highly skilled in assessing an organization's business culture and in enhancing its utilization of minority and women-owned firms. He acts as a liaison between the client and women, minority vendors. Colón also has extensive experience in designing effective outreach campaigns aimed at diverse communities. He has a proven ability to enhance program strategies and achieve marketing and outreach objectives.

Colón is also the owner of Montesi & Associates of Portland, Oregon. The firm is a minority-owned independent consulting company that provides vendor diversity, skilled outreach, affirmative marketing business development, and project management services and solutions for the high-tech and construction industries.

*For more information on all of SBA's programs and services, visit our website at [www.sba.gov/or](http://www.sba.gov/or)*

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